

In the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (currently amended) ~~The octomeric peptide of claim 4~~ An octomeric peptide comprising R1-Lys-X3-Val (SEQ. ID NO. 4) sequence, wherein Val is the carboxy-terminal amino acid and X3 is an amino acid having a non-polar functional group, wherein the amino acid having a non-polar functional group may be selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Met, Phe, Trp.
6. (currently amended) ~~The octomeric peptide of claim 4~~ An octomeric peptide comprising R1-Lys-X3-Val (SEQ. ID NO. 4) sequence, wherein Val is the carboxy-terminal amino acid and X3 is an amino acid having a non-polar functional group, wherein the amino acid having a positively charged functional group may be selected from the group consisting of Lys, Arg.

7. (cancelled)
8. (cancelled)
9. (currently amended) ~~The octomeric peptide of claim 7~~ An octomeric peptide comprising R1-Lys-Pro-X4 (SEQ. ID NO. 5) where X4 is an amino acid having a hydrophobic functional group or a non-polar functional group, wherein the amino acid having a non polar functional group is selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ala, Pro, Leu, Ile, Met, Phe, Trp.
10. (previously presented) An octomeric peptide comprising R1-X5-Pro-Val (SEQ. ID NO. 6) wherein X5 is an amino acid with a hydrophobic functional group.
11. (currently amended) The octo[[r]]meric peptide of claim 10 wherein the amino acid having a hydrophobic functional group is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Leu, Ile, Met, Pro.
12. (Previously Presented) An octomeric peptide comprising R1-Lys-X6-Val (SEQ. ID NO. 7) wherein X6 is an amino acid having a non-polar or positively charged functional group.
13. (Previously Presented) The octomeric peptide of claim 12 wherein the amino acid having a non-polar amino functional group is selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Met, Phe, Trp.

Claims 14-20 (cancelled).